Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) during the month of September, 2005 in Delhi. The names of LPG distributors are as under:—

(i) M/s. Aar Kay Enterprises.

(ii) M/s Chandrakala Indane

(iii) M/s Arya Gas Service.

IOC have reported that in all these 3 cases the cylinders were found partially containing water and were replaced free of cost by respective distributors. The Ministry has sought a detailed investigation report in the matter from IOC.

Exploration of alternative fules in Himachal Pradesh

†2354. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have tried to find out any alternative of Liquefied Petroleum Gas in the form of fuel in backward and hilly areas particularly in Himachal Pradesh to conserve environment and to stop continuous cutting down forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government would consider finding out the alternative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (OIC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC), and IBP Company Limited and marketing subsidized domestic LPG throughout the country. In order to encourage use of LPG by the people living in rural/hilly areas of the country including the State of Himachal Pradesh, OMCs have also introduced domestic LPG cylinders of 5 kg. In order to enable use of LPG by those people who cannot afford a full fledged LPG connection of their own, oil marketing companies has introduced the concept of "Rasoi Ghar" (community kitchens).

The Government of India is also promoting various alternative fuels including Bio-gas/ Gobar-gas, Solar Energy, etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.